GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:127
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
FOOD FOR WORK SCHEME
A. VENKATESH NAIK;JASWANT SINGH YADAV

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have extended the Food for Work Programme in drought affected States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of foodgrains likely to be given under the scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have issued any revised guidelines in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of people likely to be benefited under the scheme as a result thereof, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to extend this scheme in the non-drought hit areas, particularly in backward and remote areas; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 127 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31-7-2001

The Food for Work Programme was started in 2000-01 as part of the EAS, inthe drought affected States viz. Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttaranchal. The Programme aims at augmenting food security through wage employment in the drought affected rural areas, as notified by the Ministry of Agriculture. The foodgrains allocated under the Programme to these States are indicated in Annexure-I and theirquantity depends upon the demand from the States.

2. The Food for Work Programme has since been expanded to form a part of any Scheme of the Central or State Governments being implemented for the generation of wage employment in the notified districts of the State during periods of natural calamities, such as drought, flood, cyclone or earthquake. The Programme was earlier to have ended by 30th June, 2001 and has now been extended upto 30th September,2001. The revised Guidelines have been issued, as per which the Food For Work Programme will be a general Scheme (which can form a part of any Scheme of the Centre and State Government being implemented for generation of wage employment in the notified affected Districts of the States).The Government of India are to make available appropriate quantity of foodgrains to each of the affected States as an additionality and free of cost with a view to enable the affected State to provide adequate wage employment opportunities to the needy rural poor. The eligibility criteria for employment has been relaxed so as to include both BPL and APL families. Payment of wages will be partly in kind (up to 5 kgs. of foodgrains per manday) and partly in cash. The State Governments are free to calculate the cost of foodgrains paid in wages, at either BPL rates or APL rates or anywhere between these two rates. The cash component of the wages and the material cost are to be met from the Scheme under which the Food for Work Programme is implemented. The cost of transportation of foodgrains from FCI godowns to the work-site/ PDS and its distribution is the responsibility of the State Government.

3. As per the reports received from the respective State Governments, about 2300.44 lakh mandays of employment have been generated so far (State-wise details at Annexure II).The Programme is currentlyapplicable only to those Districts which have been notified as drought affected by the Ministry of Agriculture.

ANNEXURE- I

FOODGRAINS ALLOCATED UNDER THE FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAMME DURING 2000-01.AND 2001-02.

S.No	Name of States	Foodgrains allotted (quantity)			Foodgrains allotted (quantity in MTs)			Total Foodgrains alloted til
		Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	+Paddy	Total (col.5+9)
1	Gujarat	70000	20000	90000	46515	11590	0	58105	148105
2	Chhatisgarh	0	207000	207000	0	100000	298507	398507	605507
3	Madhya Prad	43000	20079	63079	115965	34035	0	150000	213079
4	Himachal Pra	11549	11549		0	0	0	11549	
5	Rajasthan	118145	0	118145	621360	0	0	621360	739505
6	Orissa	20000	80000	100000	0	50000	0	50000	150000
7	Maharashtra	8000	2000	10000	32000	8000	0	40000	50000
	Total	259145	340628	599773	815840	203625	298507	1317972	1917745

+ On the request of the State Govt. 2,98,507 tonnes of paddy was allocated in lieu of 2,00,000 tonnes of rice to the State of Chhatisgarh.